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CLAIMS

21. (Amended - Claum 24) A method for managing health care-related information about a patient as electronic records over a communications network comprising:

electronically handling the records as a plurality of component fields maintained in a database of a health care organization, each component field associated with a particular type of data associated with the patient;

storing getermining access rules, based at least in part on a role of a person desiring access to the component fields by parenhally both health care providers and non health care providers, the access rules determined by the patient;

applying the access rules before the component fields are accessed;

providing to a trist group of individuals access based on the access rules to a first predetermined group of the component fields of the records when a first access parameter is present, the first access parameter relating to desired access by thea first group of individuals, the first group of individuals including a ticst beetth care provider having a ticst role, the recording access based on the access rules to the first predetermined group of the component fields instacting access to the first group of individuals, the first predetermined group of the component fields relating to a first medical condition of the patient;

providing to a second group of individuals access based on the access rules to a second predetermined group of the component fields of the records when a second access parameter different from the first access parameter is present, the second predetermined group of the component fields not identical to the first predetermined group of the component fields, the second access parameter relating to desired access by thes second group of individuals not identical to the first group of individuals, the second group of individuals including a second death cause provides having a second role not identical to the first role, the providing access based on the access rules to the second predetermined group of the component fields including providing access to the second group of maintiduals, the second predetermined group of the component fields relating to a second medical condition of the patient; and

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completely denying to the second group of Individuals access to at least a portion of the first predetermined group of the component fields of the records when the second access parameter is present, wherein the tirst predetermined group of the component fields is and all of the component fields and the second predetermined group of the component fields is not all of the component fields.

- 23. (Amended) The method of Claim 21 wherein the determining access rules includes considering a role of a person-desiring access, the method-further comprising evaluating a login identifier associated with the person, the login identifier associated with the person.
- 24. (Cancelled) The method-of-Claim 21 wherein:

 the determining-access-rates includes considering a role of a-person desiring access;

 the first group of individuals includes a first health care provides having a first-rate,

 the second-group of individuals includes a second-benith care provider having a secondrole not identical to the first-rate.

the this predetermined group of the compenent fields is not all of the compenent fields and the second predetermined group of the component fields is not all at the component fields, and

the first prodetermine-i-group of the component fields is not identical to the second predetermined group of the component fields.

27. (Cancelled) The method of Claim 21 wherein.

his-second-group of individuals includes a personal relation who is not a medical care provided of the patienty and

the second predetermined group of the component-fields is a fraction of all of the component fields.

28. (Amended) The method of Claim 21 wherein:

the second predetermined group of component fields is indicative of \underline{bwig} and health of the patient; and

the first predetermined group of component fields is indicative of relatively worse best health of the patient.

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30. (Amended) The method of Claim 21 turther comprising wherein the determining access rules includes:

associating with one of the component fields permitted transactions selected from the group consisting of create, display, modify, and transmit, or any combination thereof; associating with the one component field unpermitted transactions selected from the group consisting of create, display, modify, and transmit, or any combination thereof; and restricting manipulation of the one component field to only the permitted transactions.

- 31. (Unchanged) The method of Claim 21 further comprising:
 selectively organizing the records or component fields thereof according to selectable
 parameters based at least in portion upon the particular types of patient data; and
 compiling the organized records or component fields thereof into an electronic file history
 that is storable in the electronic database for later access.
- 32. (Amended) The method of Claim 21 wherein the first group of individuals includes health eare providers and the second group of individuals includes at teast one health care providers not also included in the first group of individuals.
- 33. (Cancelled) A method for handling health care-related records of a patient-comprising:

 enabling an electronic database to store the records.

 defining a threshold event-relating to both medical and nonnecical data about the patient, the threshold event defined by the patient:

programming the database or en-associated computer with the threshold event has analyzing the records shared in the database to determine if the threshold event has occurred; and

using the database or the associated computer to automatically provide an electronic multipation, that is not an offer to have madical equives participated, to a non-health-cure provider selected by the patient-upon accurrence of the threshold event as darfined by the patient.

34. (Cancelled) The method of Claim 33 wherein the records contain intermation recoived from various communications devices coupled to the database of the associated computer.

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- 35. (Cancelled) The method of Claim 33 wherein the threshold event relates to reonetary amounts owed by the patient to a health care provider and wherein the electronic notinication includes a request to make payments to the health care provider after services are performed.
- 36. (Cancolled) The method of Claim 35 wherein the interested entity is the patient.
- 37. (Cancelled) The method of Claim-33-wherein:
 the three-look event-relates to receipt by the database of an anticipated receipt
 the interested autity is a personal relation of the patient; and
 the electronic multication includes at least a portion of the record -
- 38. (Amended Claim 44) A method for managing health care-related information about a patient as electronic records over a communications network comprising:

electronically handling the records as a plurality of component fields maintained in a database of a health care organization, each component field associated with a particular type of patient data associated with the patient;

stoping determining access rules to selectively govern access to the component fields, the access rules determined at least in part by the patient;

applying the access rules before the component fields are accessed;

providing based on the access rules for a first group of individuals access to a first set of component fields of the records when a first access parameter is present, the first access parameter relating to desired access by the first group of individuals, the first set of component fields relating to greatest health a first condition of the patient, the first group of additionals including health care providers:

providing based on the access rules for a second group of individuals not identical to the first group of individuals access to a second set of component fields of the records when a second access parameter not identical to the first access parameter is present, the second set of component fields not identical to the first set of component fields, the second access parameter relating to desired access by the second group of individuals, the second set of component fields relating to a <u>rationion about mometary amounts owed by second-condition of the patient, the second group of individuals including billing or accounting personnel; and</u>

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denying to the second group of individuals access to at least a portion of the first set of component fields of the records.

- 39. (Cancelled) The method of Slam 36 wherein the second condition relates to make medical intermetion about the patient.
- 40. (Cancelled). The method of Claim 38 wherein the second group or individuals includes billing or accounting paraonnel and wherein the second out of complement fields raines to findness information about the patient.
- 41. <u>Managed</u> The method of Claim 3840 wherein the first set of component fields ancholes information about medical health of the antient, the method further comprising denying the billing or accounting personnel access to any portion of the first set of component fields.
- 42. (Cancelled) The method of Claim 38 whereis:
- the first secol-component fields satisfies a first criterion about executary summents award by the section; and

Pre second san of component helds satisfies a second orderion about-momentary amounts overlay the particle.

- 43. (Cancelled) The aminot of Claim 42 wherein
- the first group of individuals includes billing or assembling passonael; and
 the second group of individuals includes personal relations of the realient.
- 44. (Cancelled) The method of Claim 36 wherein:

the first ser of component-finide-sociation a first criterion about monetary amounts-owers by the patient;

45 (New) The method of Claim 21 wherein.

the first medical condition concerns a first illness suffered by the patient, and the second medical condition concerns a second illness suffered by the patient

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- 45 (New) The method of Claim 45 wherein the first illness and the second illness are not modifically related.
- 47. (Now) The mothed of Claim 21 wherein the access rules are applied by a computer
- 48 (Naw) The method of Claim 47 wherein the computer is a server.
- 49 (New) The method of Claim 46 further comprising:

storing a threshold event relating to data about the patient, the threshold event defined by the patient:

analyzing the records to dotermine if the threshold event has occurred, and sending an electronic notification to an entity selected by the patient upon occurrence of the threshold event.

electronically handling the excerts as a plurality of component fields maintained in a detabase of a bealth care organization, each component field associated with a particular type of data associated with the particular.

storing access rules to selectively govern access to the component fields by both health care providers and non-health care providers, the access rules determined by the patient,

applying the access rules before the component fields are accessed;

providing to a first ording of individuals access based on the access rules to a first producer mined group of the component fields of the records when a first access parameter is present the first access parameter (elating to desired access by the first group of individuals, the first produced group of the component fields relating to a first medical condition of the patient:

providing to a second group of individuals, including a personal relation who is not a medical care provider of the patient, access based on the access rules to a second predefermined group of the component fields of the records when a second access parameter different from the tirst access parameter is present, the second predefermined group of the

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compagn, tietds not identical to the first predetermined group of the component fields, the second process parameter relating to desired access by the second group of individuals not identical to the first group of individuals, the second predetermined group of the component fields existing to a second medical condition of the patient and constituting a fraction of all of the component fields.

completely denying to the second croup of individuals ascess to at least a contion of the tirst medatermined group of the component fields of the records.

52. (New) The method of Claim 51 further comprising.

association with one of the component fields permitted transactions selected from the group consisting of create, display, modify, and transmit, or any combination thereof:

associating with the one component field unpermitted transactions selected from the group consisting or create, display, modify, and transmit, or any combination thereof; and restricting manipulation of the one component field to only the permitted transactions.

- 53. (New) The method of Claim 51 wherein the access rules are applied by a computer.
- 54. (New) The memod of Claim 38 further comprising deaying to the first group of individuals access to at least a partier of the second set of component fields of the records.
- 55. (New) The method of Claim 38 wherein the tirst group of individuals or the second group of individuals includes a personal relation of the patient and useessauly a billion or increasing personnel or a health page provider.
- 68. (New) The method of Claim 38 whorever the access rules are applied by a server.

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